

IN THE CLAIMS:

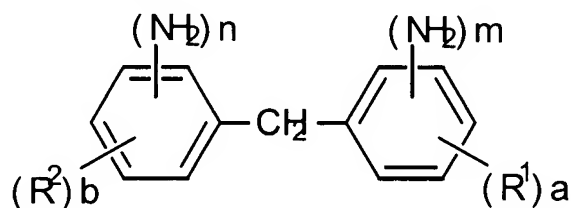
1. (Currently amended) A method for inhibiting the discoloration of methylenebisaniiline compounds, characterized by adding a phosphine represented by the following general formula:

[chemical formula 2]



(wherein  $R^3$  is an optionally substituted aryl group or an optionally substituted alkyl group; p is 0, 1 or 2 and q is 1, 2 or 3, with the provisos that the sum of p and q is 3 and that when q is 2 or 3,  $R^3$   $R^3$ s may be the same or different from each other) to a compound represented by the following general formula:

[chemical formula 1]



(wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each independently a halogen atom or a C1-C6 alkyl group; a and b are each independently an integer of 0 to 4; m and n are each independently an integer of 1 to 5, with the provisos that the sum of a and m and the sum of b and n are each 5 or less and that when a is 2 or more,  $R^1$   $R^1$ s may be the same or different from each other and, when b is 2 or more,  $R^2$   $R^2$ s may be the same or different from each other).